

[<Files\\12. Rohima Aktar>](#) - § 1 reference coded [6.15% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.15% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

I think girls can go outside and work there. Although there are many obstacles she needs to face. it will harm their purdah norm and bring shame for the family.

What types of obstacles?

Listen. If a girl goes outside and work there, people from the community have negative attitude on her. Men uses slang, bad comments or sexually explicit words on her. She may face several sexually harassment regarding her work and physical appearances. And if these happen to a girl before her marriage, it is always difficult to arrange her marriage and find a good groom's family for her.

[<Files\\14. safiya Begum>](#) - § 1 reference coded [6.99% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.99% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

Listen. In rural areas we don't have much freedom of movement for girls. It does not look good. it breaks the purdah norm for girls. People from the community will say many bad things if my daughter go outside alone. Elders in the village will say negative things regarding her parents and family nurturing. These words and negative attitude are shameful for any family. I don't want to hear these about my daughter and family. I never let her go outside without us and never allowed her stay even nearby home's boundary when the sun is setting.

Yes, sometimes I allowed my son to stay out at the evening. Sometimes I need to send her to the shops or other places. However, I cannot send my girls to any places as I have my husband and son in family.

[<Files\\16. Nasima Begum>](#) - § 1 reference coded [8.37% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 8.37% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

Yes, village people react negatively if they see girls in the street. They defame on girl's character who moves outside like boys. My mother told us to stay at home. She was very strict on this and warned us that she won't tolerate our freedom if villagers complain my attitude or movement as indecent. We never been disobedient to my mother. We stayed home mostly.

If you ever tried to go out at the evening?

No. we had restriction of not to go out after sun set. Sometimes, we went outside with other girls to watch television at closest neighbour's house, and my mother punished us several time for this.

Why such restriction for girls, not for boys?

I think the community tradition and acceptance level are different for boys. People consider men as brave, and they can protect themselves. Community people don't like girls to move freely. It is also a reflection of maintaining *purdah* for girls. Girls supposed to hide themselves from stranger and outsider of their family. However, staying outside after sun set is also not secure for a girl. People say bad comments or sexually assault a girl if she goes outside frequently, and when it is dark, the risk is maximum.

[<Files\20. Nazma Begum>](#) - § 1 reference coded [10.94% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 10.94% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

You know community people reacts if girls go outside and stay there for long. If she had a relationship or friendship with boys, community will circulate negative rumours and talks about my daughter. It will stigmatize her. People will say bad comments to us about my family. More importantly, she will face problem during her marriage and to get a good groom. None likes to engage with a stigmatized girl. I think this one of the reasons why people did not take risk to study her daughter at higher level and try to arrange her marriage as early as possible. We also didn't want to take that risk, so we stooped my daughter's study.

Is this the reason why you limit your daughter's movement outside?

Yes. My daughter is growing in age. If I let her go outside, she may meet and greet with boys and people will spread many bad stories about her. I prohibit her to move outside and communicate or play with other boys. It is better to keep her inside; it will keep them safe. this also sfaguard her *purdah* practice and respect for the family.

Do you do the same to your son?

No. It is true I don't allow him to stay long at outside, but I also not restrict him like my daughter. He is a boy; he can stay outside. People will not gossip about him. I also send him to markets and shops in many purposes. But there are many boys who plays card/do gambling at marketplace. Me and my husband strictly monitor him not to engage in such activities.

[<Files\21. Salma Khatun>](#) - § 1 reference coded [6.81% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.81% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

I think people don't like women's movement outside. it is against the conventional purdah practice. They understand boys are the one who can move freely. Girls must be kept inside home. Girls' sports are also played within the home boundary. In addition, girl's works are conducted within the household boundary. Therefore, they need not to move outside. People find indecent if girls are roaming at the street like other boys, or they meet and greet with boys. They consider girls as impudent if they cross home boundary without men's company. They also complain about their parents for impolitely nurturing their girls. I don't want to hear negative comments from villagers. I keep my daughter inside of my home.

<Files\23. Dolu Cacha> - § 1 reference coded [10.44% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 10.44% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

If girls go outside, it violates their purdah practice and many people said many negative words on their character. They consider them as impudent or indecent girls. In addition, there might be security concern for girls if they stay outside or move there. Therefore, my parents did not allow my sisters to go outside.

But what about you boys? You moved freely?

We are boys. People will not say negative comments on our character if we go outside. However, my parents told us to come back home before night. They also do not allow our late night staying outside. So, we have freedom than our sister, but not like staying overnight without parent's consent.

What about your children? How you nurture them? Do you allow both to move freely?

No. I told my son to work outside and my daughter (when she stayed with us) stay at home, help her mother in household works. As being a man, my son needs to go outside. I must not put restriction on him. He is earning from outside. However, my daughter works at home with her mother. She doesn't need to go out like my son.

<Files\24. Rozina Apa> - § 1 reference coded [9.15% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 9.15% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

The community consider women's movement like boys as indecent behaviour. Community believe is that girls must be kept inside of home. If they need to go out, they may move with their parents or with any other male guardians. However, staying outside at night is very unacceptable for girls. Girls must maintain *purdah*, and their frequent visit outside put their *purdah* maintenance at risk. Those who disobey these treated as impudent. Our tradition teaches us to normalize outside roaming for boys, not for girls. An impudent girl to the community suffers problems during her marriage. To get a qualified groom a girl must not behave impudent to the community. If people grow negative perception of a girl or of her family, village people behave negatively to both the girl and her family.

[<Files\25. Lipi Bala>](#) - § 1 reference coded [4.70% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 4.70% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

I think it was not secured for girls to stay outside. in our village community, we follow *purdah* restriction for women and girls. Otherwise, people says bad things or bad boys may tease or assault physically, and rural elders also don't like women travelling outside. You can say it was men's zone to spend time and move freely.

[<Files\26. Lokkhi Devi>](#) - § 1 reference coded [9.36% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 9.36% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

I think the community people also think less freedom of movement for girls. If I see myself, I don't need to go outside for many reasons. Since my childhood, I saw my mother or other women stayed at home, worked at home. They Marely goes outside for any reason. Villagers consider that if women need something from market, they may ask their husbands, father or brother. They don't need to go outside. If we see our mobility, we only went to school or in hospitals in emergency. We played within our home boundary, sometimes at nearest neighbour's house. But we never went to the street. We were afraid that if villagers see us in the street and complain to my father, he will punish us. I think the way we have grown up and the practices we went through, left us very minimum reason to go outside. Our role and character place us inside our house.

[<Files\28. Lipika Roy>](#) - § 1 reference coded [8.14% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 8.14% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

Our community doesn't like girls to roam like boys, spend hours outside like boys, or move across household boundaries. it is a norm for girls, some says *pardah*. if not maintained properly, people say bad things about her, who goes out of home boundary. Moreover, it is not safe for girls to stay outside. She may face harassment, teasing or sexual assault outside.

Boys are expected to have more freedom, they can go anywhere, any place at any time. He doesn't have that risk to have teasing, sexual assault or harassment. People may not say bad things about a boy who does bad things such as teasing a girl. But the girl who got teased will have community pressure for being outside and let the boys throws bad comments on her. This community is so strange.

Boys are physically powerful, and they can torture a girl outside. A girl is not physically powerful to fightback. Our social system nurture girls to stay at home to avoid such negative experiences at outside. Therefore, we restrict and limit our girl's mobility outside.

[<Files\29. Nomita Dey>](#) - § 1 reference coded [6.20% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.20% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

I think we girls were nurtured in a way that we rarely need to go outside. We could play at home yard and conduct household works with our mothers. There is also *pardah* restriction for women in the village. People complains to a girl's family if they found her on the street or outside of home. These girls are treated at impolite.

For boys, they start going outside since their childhood. Their sports were played in the street or open playing ground. They also visit market or grocery for need of their family. People will not question if they see any boys outside of the hut.

[<Files\30. Sumitra Rani>](#) - § 1 reference coded [9.35% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 9.35% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

You know, as they grow up old, girls have changes in their physical appearances and figure. We do not think girls are fit to play physical sports such as football like boys. It may create their physical problem. Therefore, our parents forbid us, and we forbid our daughters. Moreover,

people from the community have negative attitude on girls who stay outside and participate in boys' sports. They consider those girls as tomboy and these girls find it difficult to have a good marriage proposal. Nobody wants to marry a girl who behave like boys, play with boys and have movement outside like boys. They face difficulties during their marital age. People have negative perception on them.

The villagers consider a girl as impudent (*ovodro*) if she goes beyond her home. People start complaining about her parenting as indecent. People also may hesitate to communicate that family further. Some may also restrict their children to communicate that impolite girl (*ovodro meye*) or the family. They idealize that their children may also turn into impolite (*ovodro*) if they communicate that girl or her family. This is such a shame for the family in a village community.

[<Files\31. Anik Dada>](#) - § 1 reference coded [6.30% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.30% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

My brother, it might be different for cities. Girls can move more freely over there. but here in our village, we do not allow our girl to play outside of their home boundary. we maintain purdah norm for women here. It goes same to me as well. If I see someone's daughter roaming outside and playing there, it might create some sort of odd feeling within me. We are not used to with this practice. Girls stying outside and playing in open areas create disturbance among us. This is not a common practice (tradition) and anything that comes against common practices considered as unexpected to us. If this happens then I may blame the girl and her family for not taking care of her and not nurturing her with well manner. I think the same goes to my daughter and other people. We keep our daughter inside.

[<Files\32. Samad Mridha>](#) - § 1 reference coded [5.67% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 5.67% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

I think more freedom for boys and less acceptance of girl's freedom. Boys can protect themselves; they are used to with going outside since their childhood. Such as for playing at the village field. Women are physically weak, and they may not be able to protect themselves if anyone try to assault them. They also must maintain *purdah*. Traditionally I have seen my mother, aunt or other women of the village stayed at home. I think this is good for girls to remain at home.

If a girl goes outside also, she may have harassed by a teaser. I will blame that girl more than the culprit. She provided the harasser a chance to take advantage of her movement outside. People also would blame her for visiting beyond home without a male company or without adult

guardians. Why you need to travel alone in men's space? People probably would consider that girl as impolite. But I would consider her family as irresponsible for allowing their girl's movement outside.

[<Files\33. Reazur>](#) - § 1 reference coded [8.25% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 8.25% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

I think girls character and personality do not need them to visit outside like boys. They work and play inside of home. If something needed, they can ask their brother or father to bring that from outside. The need to travel all long to get that from market or shops. I don't see my wife's need to go outside, then why my daughter would go. She can ask me if she needs something. If she visits shops or market by herself, people will blame me as a father sending my daughter in men's place.

Girls stying outside and playing in open areas considered indecent in village areas. it is not proper maintainace of girl's purdah norm. I think the same goes for all other girls in our village. We all keep our daughter inside home.

[<Files\5. Parul Apa>](#) - § 1 reference coded [2.67% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 2.67% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

Boys to stay free, move distance places and play sports in open playing ground. And girls to remain at home and play with other girls. Girls must not go outside frequently. they must manage their purdah practice. otherwise the village people will not respctc her family for an impolite (*ovodro*) girl.

[<Files\6. Sayera banu>](#) - § 1 reference coded [6.21% Coverage]

Reference 1 - 6.21% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

If we don't listen to them and go outside, people will say many negative things about me and my family. People will tell my father bad things about me. They will blame my father not to have control over children and misguiding girls from maintaining *purdah* system.

How many children you have?

I have one son and a daughter.

At your current household, who takes responsibilities of household works?

I do both. I work outside as well as I need to manage my household duties. Like my mother (laugh).

What your husband does?

He was a van puller before, now he does nothing.

[<Files\7. Shiuly Begum>](#) - § 2 references coded [4.15% Coverage]

References 1-2 - 4.15% Coverage

What is community practices on boys and girl's freedom and mobility?

No. if my brothers went outside, they never had such experience like we girls had. Nobody in the family gets furious about them. They had freedom to go out. But family had negative expression on female's freedom of movement. Why girls would go out? They must maintain their purdah norm. I remember my elder sister got punished many times because of watching television at neighbours' house. She had to cross public pathways to do that, and my uncle and other villagers were always complaining about her. My parents punished her many times, both physically and orally.